

12 December 1955

SUBJECT: Termination of PCG - Detailed Discussion

Under date of October 19, Mr. Rockefeller circulated certain papers relative to the termination of the PCG. These are attached and tabbed. The principal paper, a memorandum from the Chairman of the PCG to the Chairman of OCB, contained among other things two sections which subsequently became the subject of disagreement. The first section is in paragraph 3 and described the function of PCG as infusing "dynamic new imaginative ideas, etc, etc." It went on to say that the members of the group thought these were valid objectives but that the PCG mechanism would not accomplish them and that other means should be sought to achieve them. The second draft prepared in the Rockefeller office under date of November 7 (which is attached and tabbed) revised this language by leaving out references to dynamic new ideas, etc. but continued to state that, while the PCG could not accomplish the objectives which had been sought, other means to accomplish them should be established. Under date of December 7, Mr. Hoover sent Mr. Rockefeller a revised draft (which is attached and tabbed) which merely says that the PCG mechanism will not be able to accomplish the stated objectives and leaves out all references to finding other means. Mr. Rockefeller's memorandum of December 9 (which is attached and tabbed) accepts this part of Mr. Hoover's draft of December 7, although Mr. Rockefeller says he does not agree and that he feels that the objectives of PCG continue valid and that other means should be sought to achieve them. Accordingly the issues regarding paragraph 3 are now academic.

The Rockefeller draft of October 19 also dealt with the role of PCG with respect to covert operations and contained the following paragraph as paragraph 4a:

"a. Respecting covert operations, the Group recommends that the President approve that NSC 5412/1 be amended so as to substitute therein for the Planning Coordination Group the representative of the President on the OCB and the designated representative of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense referred to in paragraph 4. a. of NSC 5412/1."

This language was consistent with the suggestions made by us at a meeting of the PCG Alternates.

The Rockefeller draft of November 7 contained the same language as that quoted above. Mr. Rockefeller had not accepted Mr. Hoover's suggestion that the President's representative be omitted from responsibility for covert operations on the grounds that "it is the President's explicit desire that he have direct staff representation in this regard." Mr. Hoover's draft of December 7 omits Mr. Rockefeller and provides as paragraph 4. a. :

"a. Respecting covert operations, the Group recommends that the President approve that NSC 5412/1 be amended so as to substitute therein for the Planning Coordination Group the designated representatives of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense referred to in paragraph 4. a of NSC 5412/1. "

Mr. Rockefeller's memorandum of December 9 in this regard suggests that paragraph 4. a. read as follows:

"Respecting covert operations, the Group recommends that the procedure obtaining prior to the creation of the Planning Coordination Group be reestablished. "

Prior to the adoption of 5412/1, NSC 5412 provided, so far as this subject is concerned, as follows:

"a. The members of the Operations Coordinating Board shall, under appropriate security arrangements, be advised of those covert operations related to National Security Council policies assigned to the Board for coordination or related to such other functions as may be assigned to the Board!"

"c. The Operations Coordinating Board will be the normal channel for securing coordination of support among the Departments of State and Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency. "

It is recommended that the suggestion in Mr. Rockefeller's memorandum of December 9, i. e. , that the procedure return to that prior to the creation of PCG, be rejected and that, if Mr. Rockefeller

is to be concerned with covert operations, the form found in the draft of paragraph 4. a. of October 19 and November 7 be retained. If Mr. Rockefeller is not to have a relation to covert operations, it is recommended that the language found in paragraph 4. a. of Mr. Hoover's draft of December 7 be retained.

A memorandum, which has previously been submitted to you, discussing revision of NSC 5412/1 and proposing amendments and procedures is also attached hereto and tabbed. You have previously read this memorandum and agreed with it.

SA/DCI/WGJackson/mb

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